

Base Fire Department collects coats to help local families

4B



One week left to reserve your seat for the Military Ball

3A

Small businesses provide big support

8B

# THE ROBINS REV-UP

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

September 30, 2005 Vol. 50 No. 39

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.



## THE MACH READ

### Access road closed through Nov. 7

The access road immediately north of Building 215 from Page Road to the parking lot on the east side of Building 215 will be closed from Monday through Nov. 7 barring inclement weather.

A security barrier contractor will renovate the drive and put in approximately 23 parking spaces. Base drivers should avoid this area.

Drivers and pedestrians adjacent to this area should watch for construction workers and equipment.

Access to the parking lot located immediately east of Building 215 can be gained by using the entrance on Richard Ray Boulevard between Building 214 and Building 228 or the entrance at the Perry Street and Third Street intersection west of Building 226 and Building 231.

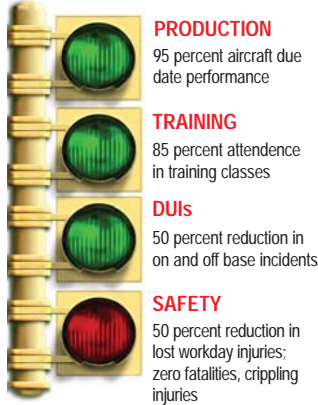
### Section of Perimeter Road closed Oct. 21-23

The section of Perimeter Road directly adjacent to the Air National Guard's West Ramp will be closed to the general Base populace as follows: Oct. 21-23, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The road closure does not apply to emergency response vehicles.

## GOAL DAYS

The designated goal day is Nov. 10. The measurement period began April 1 and ends Sept. 30.

*Editor's note: Maj. Gen. Mike Collings, Center commander, will make a final decision concerning the goal day after all goal data is compiled and reviewed.*



**WHAT IT MEANS**  
Green means goal is being met or exceeded.  
Yellow means goal has not been met, but is still attainable.  
Red means goal cannot be met.



Senior Airman Andrew Paul Witt

## Prosecution rests in Witt trial

By LANORRIS ASKEW  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The government rested its case Tuesday in the trial of Senior Airman Andrew Paul Witt, the Robins Airman charged with the stabbing deaths of Senior Airman Andrew

Schliepsiek and his wife, Jamie, as well as with the attempted murder of then Senior Airman Jason King, but not before valiantly arguing against the admission of the testimony of two defense expert witnesses.

"We were objecting because we didn't think they qualified as expert

witnesses given the area that they were going to testify about," said Maj. Vance Spath, Washington, D.C., chief circuit trial counsel, U.S. Air Force Eastern Judicial Circuit, Bolling Air Force Base. "We didn't think the testimony was relevant."

The military judge, Col. Thomas

Cumbie, dismissed both objections during a motions hearing and allowed the first of the two witnesses, both forensic psychologists, to take the stand.

Dr. Robert William Shomer, an

► see WITT, 3A

## Pioneers in Iraq



U.S. Air Force photo

Maj. Michelle Stringer (left) and First Lt. Sarah Parris are members of Robins' 78th Security Forces Squadron. The two are currently deployed to Iraq, where they are training Iraqi soldiers to defend air bases.

## Female officers train Iraqi soldiers

By CHRISSE ZDRAKAS  
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

In a culture where women stay home and men take care of business, two 78th Security Forces Squadron officers from Robins have their work cut out for them.

As part of the Air Force's first military training team in Iraq, the two are training Iraqi soldiers to defend air bases much as security forces do at home.

Maj. Michelle Stringer, a 33-year-old Woodbridge, Va., native, and First Lt. Sarah Parris, 27, an Asheville, N.C., native, are stationed at Camp Ur, a name straight out of antiquity. Located about 180 miles southeast of Baghdad, the new encampment — just over a year old — is best known as the birthplace of the biblical patriarch Abraham. The ziggurat, or temple tower, there is said to be the best preserved in Iraq.

"I'm loving life living in a trailer," Major Stringer quipped on a mid-August day that saw temperatures at 9 a.m. reach 120 in the shade.

She, Lieutenant. Parris and two Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, combat

arms instructors share a mobile home on a 5-acre compound that also houses contractors and other coalition forces.

"It used to be a hole in the desert," Major Stringer said. "Before construction could be started, they had to remove 10,000 pieces of unexploded ordnance from the site. Even now, there are areas we're told not to enter because they haven't been cleared."

The women left Robins on Mother's Day, and arrived at Camp Beuhring, Kuwait, where they underwent training. They then attended the Phoenix Academy in Tadj, Iraq, where they were first intro-

► see PIONEERS, 2A

## 402nd EMXG gears up for phase two of Sniper pod

By LISA MATHEWS  
lisa.mathews@robins.af.mil

The implementation of phase two of the Sniper pod workload is expected to net an estimated growth of 76 percent for the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group.

Phase one was implemented in 2004 with a workload of approximately 4,300 hours; when phase two begins in June 2006, those hours will increase to more than 7,000.

The Sniper pod is the next generation targeting pod for the Air Force, and is made by Lockheed Martin.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Charles Slangal, Lockheed Martin Sniper POC, downloads test data from the Common Core test station.

"Normally it's employed to put bombs on target," said Marty Hutchinson, chief of the 542nd Precision Attack Squadron. "In theater now, it's also being used as a non-traditional intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance

platform, or ISR.

"The guys in the aircraft can use the infrared sensor technology and see the bad guys on the ground, at night, in all weather, and can use that tool to guide or

► see SNIPER, 2A

## Securing the line

### 78th Communications Squadron ensures secure phones are keyed by Oct. 7

By HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Robins is calling for the rekeying of all secure telephone equipment (STE) and secure telephone units, third generation (STU-III) telephone units.

The rekey, which began Sept. 19, is part of the National Security Agency's mandate to have all secure equipment and phones properly programmed by Oct. 7, to reflect the level at which phones are secured.

Master Sgt. Philip Earthly, 78th Communications

### WHAT TO KNOW

All Secure telephone equipment and units (STE and STU-III respectively) must be rekeyed by Oct. 7, as part of a worldwide STU and STE-III phone rekey mandated by National Security Agency. Rekeying may be done 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For help rekeying one of these phones, call the 78th Communications Squadron's Secure Communications Maintenance Shop at 926-3889.

Squadron Secure Communications Maintenance Shop noncommissioned offi-

► see PHONES, 2A

### THINK SAFETY

**AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING**  
To request a ride, call 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.

**SLOW DOWN** ► 628 speeding tickets have been issued to date. Accumulating 12 traffic violation points within a year may cause drivers to lose base driving privileges for up to 6 months. Speeding violation points are based on the number of miles over the posted speed limit.

### WEATHER FORECAST

Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

TODAY  
83/64



SAURDAY  
84/65



SUNDAY  
85/63





# PIONEERS

Continued from 1A

duced to the Iraqis, followed by more training at Camp Victory in Baghdad. They expect to serve 12 months in the country.

## Hellacious sandstorms

Their compound within Camp Ur is paved, but surrounded by sand and dirt. Nearly every day in August, Major Stringer said, “hellacious” sandstorms blew in.

“You see the wind picking up,” she said. “One minute you can see; the next minute you can’t see your hand in front of your face.”

The food is good, but monotonous – rice and chicken for lunch and dinner. Both women said they miss the variety of food (back home), and Lieutenant Parris said she longs for the freedom to go out without having to put on 50 pounds of protective gear.

“While we do have plenty to eat, we also have plenty of heat and work to keep us skinny. We are both going to be lean, mean machines by the time this year is up,” she predicted.

## No phone and a ratty tent for a gym

For entertainment, there’s satellite TV – but very little time to watch it – and a makeshift gym, which Major Stringer said was more of a “ratty tent” with a few weights. The compound has no phones, but does have the relatively new “PC to phone software” that bridges the gap from Internet to telephone circuits using a modem as a Web phone.

# PHONES

Continued from 1A

cer in charge, said the rekey will ensure people can continue secure mission-related activities. “If someone isn’t authorized to use the phones, they won’t be able to go secure with someone on them once they’ve been rekeyed because they won’t have the needed information,” he said. Airman 1st Class Jonathan

“The big thing for both of us is the realization that we have taken so much for granted,” Major Stringer said. “Here, while the contractor takes very good care of us, we have little. We brush our teeth with bottled water, and the only place on the compound you find Western-style toilets are in the camp.”

Occasionally, the women venture out to Tallil Air Base about 7 miles away to get their mail, and “every now and then,” they go to eat in the base dining facility because “that’s as close to home as we’ll get.”

Officially, the Robins’ officers are in Iraq to train, coach, mentor and advise Iraqi soldiers. In practice, they have become much more – cheerleaders, morale boosters and troubleshooters.

“There were 700 of them and four of us,” Major Stringer said, which makes for what she described as an “interesting and intensely challenging assignment.” The 700 from the first two groups they trained are now operational – “out there every day doing the mission.”

## Teaching one team, one fight

“We are trying to teach the Iraqis we are one team, one fight; that it’s not us versus you. I think slowly but surely they’re learning,” she said.

Some of the trainees served in the military under Saddam Hussein’s regime, where non-commissioned officers had little authority.

“We’re showing them they can take charge – they can make things happen,” Stringer said. “They don’t think about tomor-

row and the challenges it might bring. To overcome that, we don’t tell them how to solve problems. We give them a bunch of options and ask ‘which would work best for you?’ It’s all part of getting them to think for themselves because in their old military, they couldn’t make decisions. Officers led; they followed.”

## Introducing democracy not an easy task

“These guys are pumped,” Maj. Stringer said. “They’re excited; they’re ready to get to work. They know what they’re supposed to do. We give them a speech telling them how important their job is. In a sense, we stroke their egos and work on keeping them interested in the work.

“This is unlike anything I have ever done before,” she added. “In order to help them, we must be sensitive as to what these guys have been through. We’re trying to introduce democracy over here, and that will require the ability to make decisions.”

## Bridging the language and culture gap

She and Lieutenant Parris spend time every day studying Arabic, and while they have an interpreter, they open each day’s session in Arabic. At the end of each day, they ask their Iraqi soldiers for a new word, and with an interpreter’s help, they establish the word’s English equivalent. They write the Arabic word on a notepad and come to class the next day prepared to use the word. The exercise has helped the two to form a bond with the Iraqi soldiers.

“It’s very interesting,” Major Stringer said. “In spite of the departure from the roles of women in their culture, the Iraqis seem eager to listen and learn. We might be a novelty to them, but we still get treated like they treat the two male members of the team.”

Lieutenant Parris agreed. “Their culture views women as subservient (which definitely goes against our personalities), but we did have a pleasant surprise that most of the soldiers we work with don’t have a problem taking directions from a female.”

Major Stringer said she’s careful not to step on their traditions.

“I’m very conscious of how they regard women. When it’s time to make decisions, I always have a male sergeant major ‘make’ the decision because I don’t want the soldiers to suffer any backlash or shame because they took orders from a woman or worse, were corrected by a woman.”

They have learned not to be the first to extend hands for a handshake and not to be the first to speak. At meetings, Major Stringer said she waits for the men to make the first moves.

One other cultural change the two have gotten used to is lack of personal space.

“As Americans, we like our space when we talk to people,” she said. “The Iraqis are used to being right in your face. At first it was uncomfortable, but we’ve gotten over that stage. We both understand they are crowding around us because they are interested in what ‘the ladies’ have to say.”

Airman Rogers said without the proper rekey, the STE and STU-III phones will no longer work and will require a new key, which could stop the phone’s use for up to six weeks.

Sergeant Earthly said with the high volume of calls being made to conduct the rekey, NSA requests users rekey their phones during off-peak times, such as weekends and during early morning or late evening hours.

# SNIPER

Continued from 1A

instruct ground forces to these people,” he added.

Bob Brandt, with the 402nd EMXG Business Office, said the workload was coming to Robins through a work-share partnership with Lockheed Martin. Phase two will include electro/optical testing and repair.

“The required facilities will be in place by December this year, and the equipment should start arriving in January,” Mr. Brandt said. “After checkout and training, we should be ready to stand up phase two of depot repair in the June timeframe of 2006.

In addition to the initial training, Lockheed will supply on-going engineering support to the ALC throughout the life of the partnership enabling base technicians to stay up-to-date with all the latest things coming down the road on Sniper.

“It’s significant because it is bringing in new technology. We want to keep up with the technology out there, and this is a wonderful opportunity for our technicians to be able to do

that,” said Mary Lou Schoo of the 402nd Business Operations Office.

She added that the training on the new technology makes the Center more prepared to take on other weapons systems in the future.

Wade Hunnicutt, also with the 402nd EMXG, explained that the workload is being absorbed into the current work force. “We don’t plan to employ additional people for this workload.”

“The majority of Sniper repair that is not vendor repair will be accomplished at Warner Robins so Lockheed Martin will not have to set up another repair facility to do the work,” Mr. Brandt said.

Mr. Hutchinson said the partnership allows Lockheed to concentrate on production of the pod and the Center to concentrate on repair. Part of the agreement is for the repair work to be done in five days to ensure a 98 percent availability rate of the pod.

The pods are currently used on F-15 and F-16 aircraft. The potential exists for other platforms, such as the A-10 and B-1. Also, core Sniper technology will be used in the Joint Strike Fighter program.

# CAMPAIGN

Continued from 1A

According to Mr. Bowen, people interested in giving in the campaign will be given CFC booklets, which provide guidelines for giving and information on the various charities that benefit from the campaign.

Donations are not limited to a specific amount and incentive gifts will be given to those pre-established donation levels.

All CFC donations are 100 percent tax deductible.

## ► CORRECTION

The Robins Rev-Up misidentified the 78 Operations Support Squadron in the Sept. 23 issue. The Rev-Up regrets the error.

## CFC QUICK FACTS

The 2005-2006 The Combined Federal Campaign, themed “Where the heart is...in every one of us,” kicked off Thursday. The campaign is open to all base employees. Military and civil service employees may make a one-time contribution or have donations deducted from their paychecks. For more information, contact Kevin Bowmen at 222-2326.

## Congratulations and thanks

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
Major Gen. Mike Collings pays a visit to congratulate and express his appreciation to contracting workers Wednesday for the business solutions they negotiate for the war fighter. All contracting professionals here collectively will win approximately \$4 billion in awards for the Center in goods and services for fiscal 2005.



## One week left to reserve your seat for the Military Ball

Reservations will be taken through Oct. 7 for the 21st Middle Georgia Military Ball, scheduled Oct. 22, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Hangar. Proceeds from the ball benefit the museum.  
Entertainment will be provided by Full Spectrum, the jazz ensemble of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve; the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team; and the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.  
The theme for this year’s ball will be the 50th anniversary of

the U.S. Air Force’s first flight of the C-130.  
Anyone interested in attending should call their organizational monitors. The following are taking reservations:  
► WR-ALC Command Section & Staff Offices – Shelley Ward, XP, 222-0769  
► WR-ALC/EN – Capt. David Drummond, 926-0540  
► WR-ALC/MU – Linda DeRosa, 926-6870  
► WR-ALC/PK – Stephanie Gisseman, 926-5236  
► WR-ALC/QL – Betina Harris, 926-8739

► HQ AFRC – Master Sgt. Sonia McPhee, 327-1114  
► 5 CCG – 2nd Lt. Russell Hammer or 2nd Lt. Mark Duncan, 327-8703  
► 19 ARG – Master Sgt. Rodney McPhail, 926-4589  
► 78 ABW – Diane Gross, 926-6203, or Kathy Fairfield, 926-4905  
► 99 ARS – Capt. Daniel Whatley, 327-6784  
► 116 ACW – 1st Lt. Vanessa Siffrin, 327-4470  
► 330 ASW – Jeane Paris, 926-6459  
► 402 MXW – Kelley

(Latham) Prestridge, 222-3533  
► 413 FTG – Senior Master Sgt. O’Brian Webster, 222-2877  
► 542 CSW – 2nd Lt. Nicole Rogers, 926-9765, or 2nd Lt. Jeff Seguin, 926-7280  
► 622 MSS – Tech Sgt. Nancy Brown, 926-5801  
► 653 CLSS – Master Sgt. Olin Wilson, 926-5046  
For more information, contact project officer Kay Hattaway at 222-3538 or wanda.hattaway@robins.af.mil, or Kelley Prestridge at 222-3533 or kelley.prestridge@robins.af.mil.

## WITT

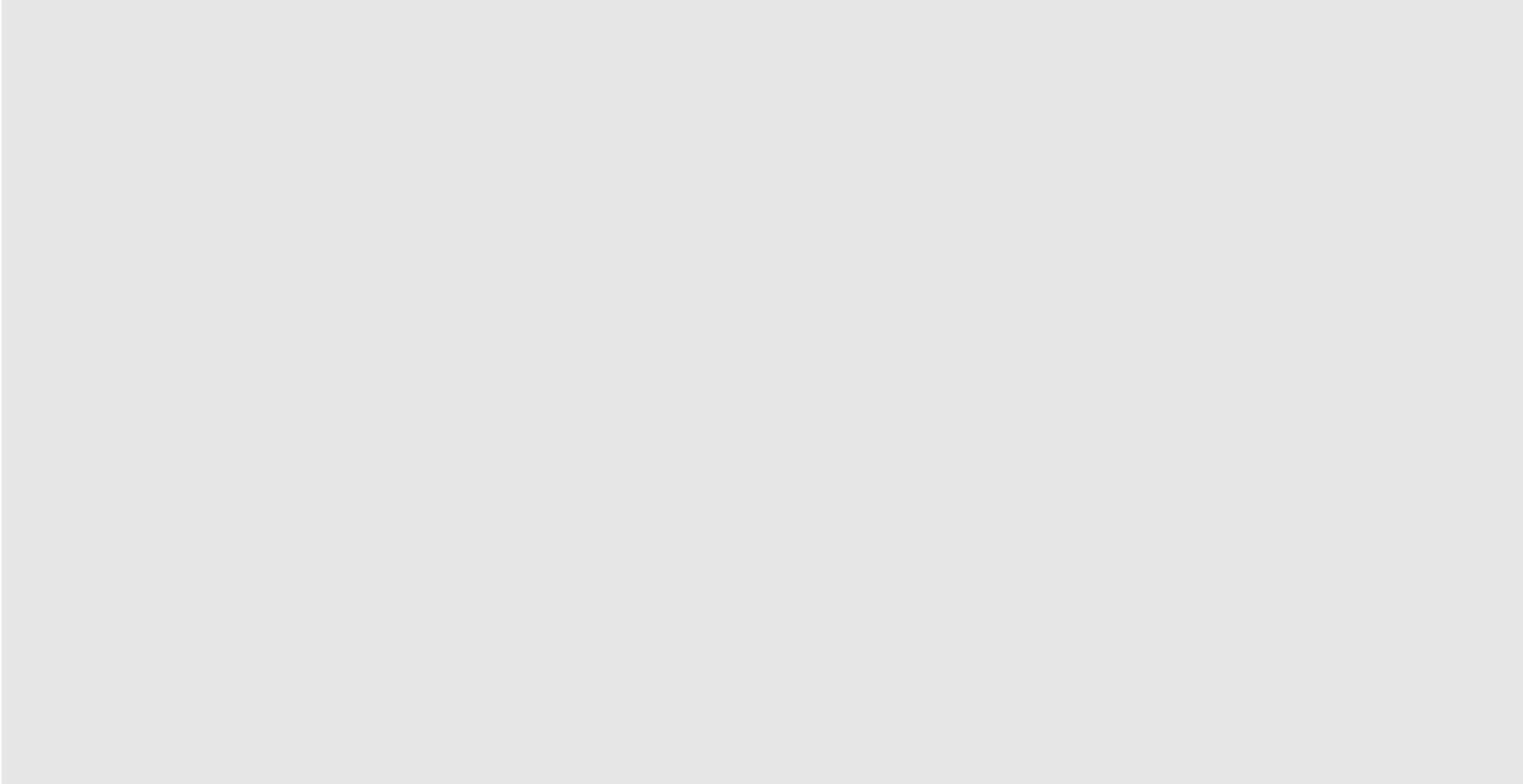
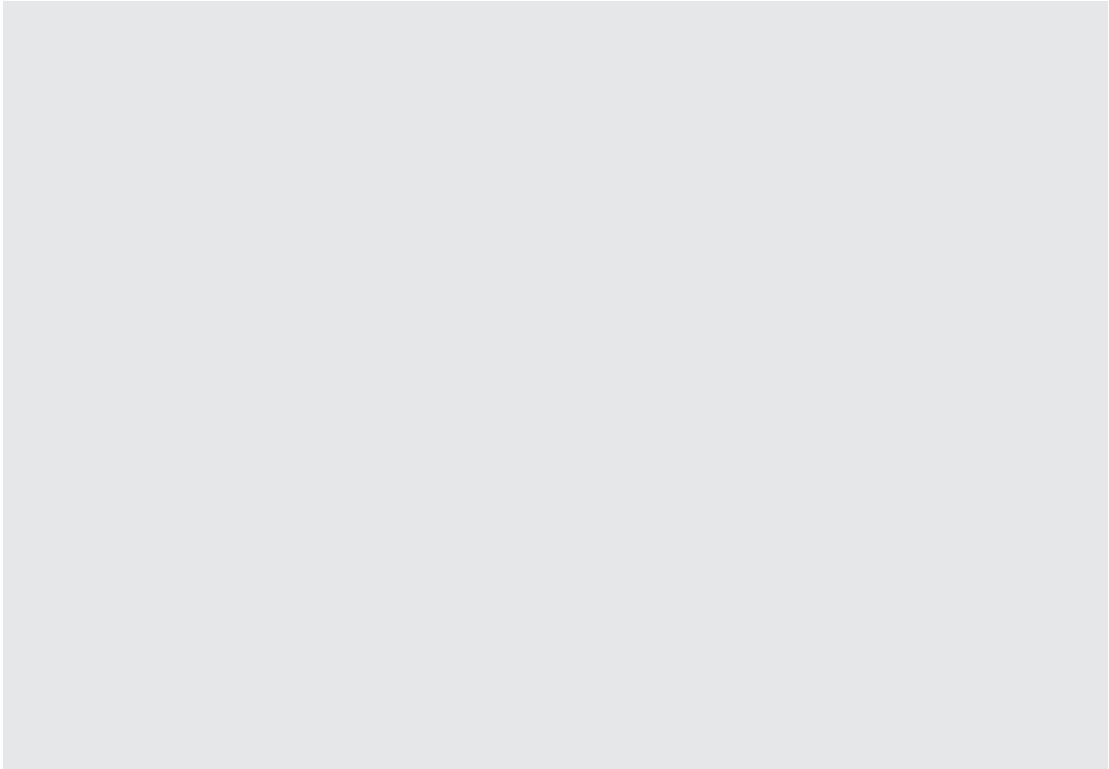
Continued from 1A

expert in perception and memory, testified that the adrenaline flow caused by extremely stressful events can affect a person’s ability to recall or reconstruct an event. This, he said, could account for differing statements from Airman Witt and now Staff Sergeant King.  
While admitted as an expert witness, Dr. Shomer said it wasn’t his role to determine if one, either or both of the men were being truthful.  
The trial counsels were able to reach a mutual decision about the second expert witness, Dr. Bill E. Mosman, who was expected to testify to Airman Witt’s state of mind and the presence of a personality disorder that wouldn’t have allowed him to premeditate the attacks.  
After a conference with the two sides, the judge announced that there is no precedent to prevent the government from requesting further testing by their own psychologist. The defense allowed Airman Witt to undergo such testing as well as an interview conducted by Dr. Craig C. Rath, a forensic psychologist.  
The result of Dr. Rath’s testing and interview will initially only be provided to the defense. Based on those results the defense will decide if they still want to call Dr. Mosman to the stand. If Dr. Mosman is not called upon, the government gets no access to the test results and interview. However if the defense witness is called, the government gains full access to all of the information obtained by Dr. Rath.  
The judge also said if Dr. Mosman testifies about Airman Witt’s state of mind the government can freely use the results of an earlier sanity board.  
If called upon during a sentencing phase, Dr. Mosman will be limited in his talks about the potential for rehabilitation. If he does, the Government can use Rath’s results to counter.  
In opening statements last week, the defense revealed they wouldn’t dispute the fact that Airman Witt committed the offenses — only that he was guilty to a lesser degree and did not premeditate the attacks. The government plans to prove the attacks were premeditated.  
Major Spath said now that the government has rested, he

believes their case has gone well.  
“I think it went as well as it could’ve for us and now the defense has their turn and they get to put on evidence and witnesses as well,” said Major Spath.  
The major said any additional testimony or findings provided would be presented in the government’s rebuttal case which will follow the defense’s findings portion.  
The close of the findings por-

tion of the government’s case followed nearly two weeks of jury selection, forensic testimony and first-and second-hand accounts of the events of July 5, 2004.  
A parade of more than two dozen prosecution witnesses took the stand including Staff Sergeant King, the Houston County 911 operators who took the emergency calls, an Air Force medical examiner, who described the victim’s wounds, and the Air Force

Office of Special Investigations special agents who took the defendant’s oral and written statements.  
A copy of the 911 call played as proceedings ended Sept. 23 leaving the families of the Schliepsieks visibly shaken.  
The proceedings are being heard before an Air Force panel of 10 men and two women at Bibb County Courthouse in Macon.



### Got news to share?

Contact a member of the Rev Up staff

Geoff Janes 222-0804

Holly Birchfield 222-0810

Amanda Smith 222-0807

Lanorris Askew 222-0806

Sue Sapp 222-0805



# Rapid response



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
Dan Bockholt, emergency medical technician intermediate, and E.G. Davis, paramedic, demonstrate loading a stretcher into an ambulance. Robins new 24-hour ambulance service is available daily.

## Robins gains 24/7 ambulance service to meet medical needs

By HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Robins partnered with the local Mid Georgia Ambulance Service Sept. 18, making Robins one of Air Force Materiel Command’s first bases to provide emergency medical services to its base-wide population, 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

Joe Robinson, Mid Georgia Ambulance Service chief operating officer, said the service will provide prompt response to on-base emergencies, no matter when they occur.

“There will always be one crew on staff, with resources to provide immediate backup in the event that ambulance is on



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
E.G. Davis, paramedic, checks Master Sgt. Vincent Green’s blood pressure.

call,” he said.

Prior to the 24-hour service, the base had a 12-hour emergency service provided by Houston Medical Center. At the end of Robins’ emergency responders’ shift, Houston Medical paramedics responded from off-base.

Mr. Robinson said having three crews rotating every 24 hours will ensure Robins’ emergency medical needs are covered.

“Patients will primarily be taken to the Houston Medical Center,” he said. “Some may be taken to the Medical Center of Central Georgia. Some people may be transported to other hospitals around the state, depending on their medical

needs.”

According to Mr. Robinson, the service has responded to 14 on-base emergency calls, with an average response time of about three minutes, a response level he said his service intends to maintain.

Master Sgt. Vincent Green, 78th Medical Group quality assurance evaluator, said the service, will help the medical group provide care it wasn’t otherwise equipped to provide.

“We don’t have an emergency room here,” he said. “So, what we want to do is make sure our people assigned to this base know we can provide emergency response if the need arises.”

Mid Georgia Ambulance

paramedics will work from the medical group in Building 700, until called for emergency response.

“If you’re calling from a base phone, the call is going to come in to 78th Security Forces’ law enforcement desk (and will be directed from there),” said Sergeant Green. “If you’re calling from a civilian phone, such as base housing or a cell phone, it will go to the 911 dispatch.”

Belinda Somers, Mid Georgia Ambulance communication manager, said 911 operators are on hand to give emergency instruction.

“In the event of a true emergency, our operators have the ability to give pre-arrival instructions,” she said. “They’ve been trained to talk you through delivering a baby or giving CPR.”

The ambulance service is contracted for one-year, with plans for a five-year contract upon the success of the service.

WHAT TO KNOW

Robins now has 24-hour ambulance service seven days a week. The service provides emergency response to all base locations, including base housing, mission-related buildings and in-flight emergencies. If an ambulance is needed to be on stand-by for an event, contact Master Sgt. Vincent Green, quality assurance evaluator with the 78th Medical Group, at 327-8136.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

When an emergency happens near you, know what to do – 1. Give the 911 operator a description of the emergency. 2. Give the street address and as much detail about the emergency location. 3. Have someone go outside and direct the ambulance crew to the person in need. 4. Stay on the phone line until the operator instructs you to hang up.



# Getting better

## Training gives purchasing, supply chain management workers skills for future

**542nd Combat Sustainment Group**

Purchasing and supply chain management workers will soon learn how to meet the war fighter's future needs.

Beginning Oct. 11, 25 workers in the logistics work force here will gain the necessary tools for professional growth and development in their career field and align their career goals with the Air Force's war-fighting mission, as part of an Air Force Materiel Command initiative to train 3,350 employees by 2009.

Patty Martin, 542nd Materiel Sustainment Group director, said the immersion training, provided at the Mercer Engineering Research Center by Virginia-based business consulting firm, BearingPoint, is a great benefit to PSCM employees.

"A framework for developing logistics professionals is long overdue," she said. "I'm excited about the progress we've made toward achieving that goal. Our PSCM immersion training will not only focus on educating our employees on changes driven by transformation, but it will also include training that will help them develop as professionals in the workplace as well as other areas of their lives."

Phil Ferguson, 542nd Materiel Sustainment Group's Home Office section chief, said making such an investment in the Air Force's logistics work force is paramount.

"The Air Force has made a long-term commitment to professionalize the logistics work force," he said. "They demonstrate this commitment through a massive dedication of funds

### JUST THE FACTS

Purchasing and Supply Management Immersion training is part of an Air Force Materiel Command initiative to educate all Materiel Support Division (MSD) and other PSCM workers throughout AFMC on key skills and concepts needed in the PSCM business environment. PSCM is part of a larger AFMC Sustainment Transformation effort seeking to dramatically improve war fighter readiness by integrating multiple purchasing and supply functions into a single, end-to-end process. About 25 people will be trained during the first nine-week session held locally at the Mercer Engineering Research Center Oct. 11. Beginning January 2006, Robins will hold three concurrent classes of similar size each quarter until third quarter 2009. By the program's end, 1,075 people will be trained at Robins and 3,350 people will be trained command-wide. Since classes will be held locally, temporary duty assignment is not necessary. For more information, contact Phil Ferguson, 542nd Combat Sustainment Home Office section chief, at 926-9373.

and time that are required for immersion training. This training will facilitate a smooth transition from today's legacy systems environment to the future transformed state and will provide an education in core competencies that will be of universal benefit to the entire work force."

The training, expected to run daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the nine-week period, will also support the skills needed for the work force changes associated with Air Force

Sustainment Transformation.

Each of AFMC's air logistics centers will provide local training according to a command master schedule. AFMC headquarters will also participate by training one class of 25 people per quarter, concluding classes in December 2006.

Class materials, which are tailored to the Air Force logistics employee, were developed through a collaborative effort between AFMC headquarters, each ALC, and International Business Machines (IBM) Corporation.

In addition, other career development initiatives are being implemented across AFMC to meet Civilian Force Development objectives.

The Professional Development Framework (PDF) – comprised of core competencies, dimension capabilities and skills – will be the primary tool for capability assessment and career development for all civilian and military employees across Air Force logistics centers.

It will provide a structured education and training approach for professional credentialing to support and document an employee's progress in different levels of career-related expertise.

The initial PDF implementation is targeted to support MSD-funded logistics professionals and a number of other PSCM workers.

PSCM immersion training contains courses designed to help employees meet about 40 percent of the training requirements for PDF core competencies and 80 percent of training requirements for the supply dimension.

## How civilians can help Hurricane Katrina victims

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, many Americans want to do whatever they can to help those directly affected, and now government civilians have some opportunities to help in the effort.

The Emergency Leave Transfer Program (ELTP) is one avenue civilian employees can take to do their part in helping hurricane victims.

Through the ELTP, Air Force civilian employees may donate annual leave for transfer to fellow employees adversely affected by the hurricane and who need time off from work without have without having to use their own accrued annual or sick leave.

Ms. Sherry Josey, Lead Employee Relations Specialist in the Workforce Effectiveness Division of the Civilian Personnel Office agreed "We have all been affected by the magnitude of this disaster and its victims," she said. "Civilian

Personnel has received many calls from employees offering to assist those affected by the hurricane. This program for fellow government employees offers just that, and is also an avenue for those who cannot physically assist to help."

Civilian employees may donate up to 104 hours of annual leave per leave year to the Air Force emergency leave transfer account but may not donate leave to a specific person. In addition, leave donated under the ELTP is not applied against limitations on the donation of annual leave under the on-going voluntary leave transfer program. Donated leave not used by emergency leave recipients will be restored to the leave donors. Those wishing to donate leave should complete OPM Form 1638 and submit it to their servicing Employee Relations Element, 78 MSS/DPCLA or DPCLB,

ATTENTION: Employee Relations Assistant, ELTP Donation Form.

Employees may apply to become an ELTP recipient, and receive up to 240 hours of donated leave at any one time, for their own personal needs or to care for a family member, including physical or mental illness, injury, or loss of life as a result of Hurricane Katrina. Applications to become a leave recipient under the ELTP are made by completing OPM Form 1637 and including a statement describing the need for the leave. Applications should be faxed (DSN 665-2912) or e-mailed directly to HQ AFPC at AFPC.CivilianFieldActivities@RANDOLPH.AF.MIL.

For additional information on the ELTP, employees should contact their servicing Employee Relations Specialist at 6-0677 or 6-5802.

*From Staff Reports*

## Fire Prevention Week events scheduled

Robins Air Force Base Fire Department, in conjunction with the National Fire Protection Association, will observe National Fire Prevention Week to raise awareness of the dangers of fire and the need to observe fire safety.

Fire Prevention Week is observed each October, and includes Oct. 9 in remembrance of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. This year's dates are Oct. 9-15. Fire prevention events at Robins begin Oct. 3.

This year's theme is "Use Candles With Care. When You Go Out, Blow Out." Even though Fire Prevention Week is observed only once a year, fire prevention issues are important year-round. This year's goal is to spread the message that fire

safety does save lives.

With this year's campaign, the base fire department will focus on educating the base populace, preschool, and school age children about fire safety and the importance of candle safety.

The public is encouraged to practice home fire evacuation escape plans at least twice each year, make sure that all family members know the escape plan, and test smoke detectors at least once each month.

This year's schedule of events at Robins includes:

► Oct. 3 – Fire Prevention poster contest at Robins Elementary School, 8:50 a.m.

► Oct. 4 – Sparky visits the Child Development Center West, Building 946, 9 a.m.

► Oct. 5 – Fire Drill at

Robins Elementary, Building 988, 9 a.m.

► Oct. 6 – Sparky visits Child Development Center East, Building 943, 9 a.m.

► Oct. 7 – Hanging of Fire Prevention banners at Fifth, Main and First street gates and Russell Parkway gate, 9 a.m.

► Oct. 7 – Sparky visits Robins pre-kindergarten students, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

► Oct. 11-14 – Fire Safety trailer at Robins Elementary, 8:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.

► Oct. 11-14 – Fire Prevention material handouts at Base Exchange, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The fire extinguisher maintenance shop will be closed Oct. 11 and 13. For more information, contact the Base Fire Prevention Section at 926-2145.



“The Air Force is transforming from an Industrial Age force to an Information Age force and from a Cold War force to an expeditionary force. All while adjusting to emerging missions in a changed security environment.”

Acting Secretary of the Air Force Pete Geren, at the Air Force Association's Air and Space Conference

HOW TO CONTACT US

78th Air Base Wing  
Office of Public Affairs  
215 Page Rd., Suite 106  
Robins AFB, GA 31098  
(478) 926-2137 DSN 468-2137  
Fax (478) 926-9597

EDITORIAL STAFF

COMMANDER  
Col. Greg Patterson

PA DIRECTOR  
Capt. Rickardo Bodden

CHIEF OF INTERNAL  
INFORMATION AND EDITOR

Geoff Janes  
vance.janes@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-0804

ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
Amanda Smith  
amanda.smith@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-0807

STAFF WRITERS  
Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-0806  
Holly L. Birchfield  
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-0810  
Chrissy Zdrakas  
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil  
(478) 926-5623

CONTRIBUTING WRITER  
Lisa Mathews  
lisa.mathews@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-3544

PHOTOGRAPHER

Sue Sapp  
sue.sapp@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-0805

GRAPHIC ARTIST  
Staff Sgt. Brian Bahret  
brian.bahret@robins.af.mil  
(478) 222-0803

SUBMISSION  
GUIDELINES

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To place a classified ad, call The Telegraph at (478) 744-4234.

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Gratitude among disaster

When you wear a military uniform in New Orleans, they come at you from everywhere, these people who look like they’ve lost everything. Their eyes are a bit glazed. Their hands extended. “Thank you for all you are doing here,” they say. “Thank you for helping us.”

Some break down in tears, telling stories of how they found their homes under four feet of water. Some keep a stiff upper lip, unwilling to let the devastation of Hurricane Rita break their spirit.

“At least my family is safe,” one woman told me. Her college-age daughter nodded in agreement. “We’ll rebuild our lives, thanks to people like you who have come down here to help us.”

Coming to New Orleans to participate in the rescue and recovery of this great American city has been a powerful experience for me. The city is battered, bruised and abandoned. Thousands of military and civilian workers are here, saving lives, rebuilding infrastructure, and providing security so that New Orleans can get back on its feet again.

What has touched me the most is the spirit of those who call this city home. New Orleans is famous



U.S. Air Force photo by MAJOR MELINDA MORGAN  
Lt. Col. Mike Pierson (center) escorts a reporter during an 82nd Airborne division waterborne search and rescue mission in New Orleans Sep. 9.

as a party town. It is also the home to thousands of artists, musicians, painters and others who are the cultural heart beat of this once-vibrant community. These people are proud of their unique city where the ancient cathedral downtown bears inscriptions, in French, from the early 1700s. Outside the famous French Quarter, about half-a-million

Americans once lived out normal lives. Thousands of them have lost nearly everything they own. They are living with relatives, in motels, some in their cars. Yet, every day I meet more New Orleans residents who are determined to see their city rebuilt, reborn, and revitalized. “I’m happy to help,” is all I can think to say when I receive their

gratitude. I hope that if I’m ever in their position, my fellow Americans will show up to help me too.

Lt. Col. Mike Pierson wrote this commentary. He is currently deployed to Joint Task Force Katrina in New Orleans. He is the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Director of Public Affairs.

Ramadan: the month of fasting

In a few days, Muslims in the military and throughout the world will be looking to sight the new moon which signifies the start of Ramadan, the month of fasting.

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is the month that the Prophet Muhammad received the first revelations of the Quran from Allah through the angel Gabriel. It is a time of deep reflection, devotion, obedience, extensive charity, seeking forgiveness for sins, and prayer, and is a month when the entire Quran is read by Muslims.

This year, Ramadan begins around Oct. 4 or 5, depending on when the new moon is sighted, and will last for about 29 to 30 days.

Fasting is the fourth pillar or the fourth essential structure of Islam. Fasting involves refraining from eating, drinking (any liquids), conjugal relations with your spouse, from every kind of wrongdoing in thought and in deed, including anger, and continues for the entire month of Ramadan, from dawn until sunset.

For Muslims, Ramadan is a month of heightened God-consciousness and piety, and is a time to initiate improvement in character and behavior. Fasting is a reminder to those who have achieved wealth to sympathize with the needy. The practice of being aware of and providing assistance to those in need continues until the last day of Ramadan and is encouraged thereafter.

The month of Ramadan concludes with a special day of celebration called

Eid ul-Fitr. This celebration begins with an early morning prayer of thanksgiving. Prior to the collective prayer, Muslims are to give charity to help those in need to enjoy the celebration. All are encouraged to dress in their best clothing. Eid, which means recurring happiness from obedience to Allah, lasts for three days during which Muslims give gifts, attend feasts, visit the sick, and enjoy recreational activities. For Muslims, these days represent the way mankind makes a personal sacrifice for the benefit of society by giving the best of himself in the service of Allah.

During the month of Ramadan, the following events will be held at the base chapel:

- Oct. 12, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., there will be a brief lecture on Islam and a panel for questions and answers. Light refreshments will be provided free of charge.
- Oct. 15, from 1 to 3:30 p.m., there will be a free showing of the movie “The Message” starring Anthony Quinn. This movie presents the history on the beginning of Islam.
- Oct. 21, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., there will be a free dinner or evening fast breaking program.

For additional information or to make reservations for any of these events, contact Chief Master Sgt. Talib Shareef at 327-0744.

Chief Master Sgt. Talib Shareef wrote this commentary. He is superintendent of field activities, Air Force Reserve Command Headquarters.

Jewish High Holy Days begin Monday

TECH. SGT. JASON TUDOR  
Air Force Reserve Command

The Jewish High Holy Days begin at sundown Monday.

Rosh Hashana takes place Monday through Wednesday while Yom Kippur falls on Oct. 12 and 13. Rosh Hashana, means “head of the year” or “new year.” It starts 10 days of “intense introspection and self-evaluation in order to correct errors or misdeeds that one has performed in the past year,” according to Jay Freedman, a lay leader with Congregation Sha’arey Israel in Macon. Rosh Hashana culminates with Yom Kippur, or Day of Repentance.

On Yom Kippur, which is a day of fasting from sundown the evening before until sundown of the day itself, one is “required to ‘make things right’ between himself and God,” Mr. Freedman said.

“The catch is that one cannot make things right spiritually until he has made things right with one’s fellow human being by correcting any misdeeds,” he added. “The services that our folks will be attending tend to the spiritual side and provide a platform for individuals upon which to act.”

Mr. Freedman said Jewish military members are welcome to attend High Holy Days services at both the conservative and reform synagogues in Macon. Both synagogues request people make requests in advance, since they both issue tickets. The tickets are free to active-duty military and their families.

For additional information, call Mr. Freedman at 6-4713 or e-mail him at jay.freedman@robins.af.mil. For High Holy Day service tickets or please contact either synagogue listed below:

Congregation Sha’arey Israel (Conservative), 611 First St., Macon GA 31201. Telephone (478) 745-4571. Temple Beth Israel (Reform), 892 Cherry Street, Macon GA 31201. Telephone (478) 745-6727.

‘Dear Roz’

**Q:** I have read about the new classification system to be implemented with the National Security Personnel System – would you please explain the meaning of career group, pay schedule and pay band?

**A:** Instead of general schedule and federal wage system pay plans, NSPS classification system will place employees in occupational career groups. The current Office of Personnel Management occupational series and job titles will be retained with NSPS. A career group will consist of one more associated or related occupations. For example, the engineering and scientific career group could consist of employees in occupational series of 0855 and 1550 with position titles of electronic engineer and computer scientist, respectively. Within the career group, pay schedules will be established and will identify relative levels of

work and corresponding pay ranges within a career group.

Pay schedules will typically include the following levels of work:

- Entry/developmental work that involves a combination of formal training and/or on-the-job experience.
  - Work that involves non-supervisory duties and responsibilities at the full performance level of the occupation
  - Non-supervisory expert work that involves a high level of specialized knowledge or technical expertise. A separate Pay Schedule will be established for:
  - Work that involves the supervision of employees at the full performance or expert level
  - Managerial work whose primary purpose is to direct key Department of Defense/Component scientific, medical, legal, and administrative, or other programs
- Each Pay Schedule may include two

or more pay bands. A pay band contains one or more levels with associated pay ranges within a pay schedule. Employees may request reassignment to other pay bands at the same rate of pay or be promoted (competitively) to other pay bands if the pay would increase their salary by at least 6 percent.

If your organization has not received the NSPS Overview, please contact the WRALC/CCN Office at 926-4023 to schedule a date and time. Also, be sure to visit the Robins Homepage and click on the NSPS Logo for the latest information available on NSPS.

Rosalind ‘Roz’ Overton, NSPS transition assistant, will address employees’ NSPS concerns in the Robins Rev-Up each week. For more information, call Ms. Overton at 926-4023 or visit the NSPS link at www.robins.af.mil.



Rosalind ‘Roz’ Overton is a National Security Personnel System transition assistant.



Col. Greg Patterson  
78th Air Base Wing commander

Commander’s  
Action Line

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible:

- Security Forces 327-3445;
- Services Division 926-5491;
- EEO Office 926-2131;
- MEO 926-6608;
- Employee Relations 926-5802;
- Military Pay 926-3777;
- IDEA 926-2536;
- Base hospital 327-7850;
- Civil engineering 926-5657;
- Public Affairs 926-2137;
- Safety Office 926-6271;
- Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline 926-2393;
- Housing Office 926-3776.

This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 or for the quickest response, e-mail one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account, use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also visit https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up. Anonymous action lines will not be processed.

Sexual assault training

I just completed the sexual assault training given by Capt. Sharon Ehasz.

First off, the video was very good. Secondly, Captain Ehasz was beyond great. She was very knowledgeable, enthusiastic and had great presence.

If the Air Force had mandatory training like this more often with quality material and instructors we’d all be better prepared. I told her what a great job she did but also wanted to pass it along to you.

Colonel Patterson’s Reply

Thanks for your e-mail and the compliment on our sexual assault training program. Captain Ehasz is a real professional, and we certainly appreciate the great work she and Cindy Graver are doing with this program.

We are required to have all of our military personnel trained no later than Nov. 1. We are also required to conduct the training in small groups of 30 to 35 people, so you can imagine how busy these two professionals are. Once all of our military personnel are trained, we will offer the training to our civilian professionals. All organizations should now be scheduled for training, but if you are in doubt, please call our Sexual Assault Response Coordinator’s (SARC) office at 327-7272.

Military justice

During the period of Sept. 17 through Sept. 29, no members of Robins Air Force Base received non-judicial punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

There were no administrative discharges under the rapid airman discharge program for this time period.

– 78th Air Base Wing Legal Office



► IN BRIEF

**COMMANDER SUPPORT STAFF TRAINING**

The 78th Mission Support Squadron’s Military Personnel Flight will host their monthly Commander Support Staff in-house training session Oct. 5, at 3 p.m., Building 905, Room 240 (MPF Training Room).

Training topics will include comments by the 78 Mission Support Group commander; introduction to the new MPF superintendent; force shaping phase 2 modifications; contingency duty status updating; and referral performance reports. For more information, call Master Sgt. John Petain at 7-7343.

**2005 AIR FORCE CLIMATE SURVEY BEGINS 1 OCT.**

Here’s your chance to give your boss an evaluation.

Every Air Force member and employee will have the chance to change the future by participating in the 2005 Air Force Climate Survey. Beginning Oct. 1, the 2005 Climate Survey will allow all who are involved with the Air Force to let their leaders know what they think from the Chief of Staff down to the local work place. The survey will run through Nov. 23 and can be taken online from either a government or home computer at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil/>.

The survey is easily accessible and user friendly.

Under the adage of “Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow,” the survey will paint an accurate picture of the employee perspective of their working environment. The survey is completely confidential and the responses will have a direct influence on leadership’s creation of positive changes. Factors that will be evaluated include employee thoughts on leadership, supervision, training, recognition and other aspects of Air Force service.

**CHILDCARE AVAILABLE FOR DEPLOYED PARENTS**

Free childcare is available for eligible servicemembers who have just returned from a 30-day or more Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Global War On Terrorism (GWOT) deployment or who are home on a two week leave.

The Returning Home Care Program offers deployed parents up to 16 hours of free child care per child under this unique Expanded Child Care Program. Eligible users are active duty members, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members assigned to or living on the installation. Guard and Reserve are eligible to use this program also under the Home Community Care Program in the civilian community during weekend care contracted time. The care is provided in the Extended Duty Care FCC homes and in the off-base civilian ANG/AFR Home Community Care contracted homes off-base.

For more information, contact the Family Child Care Office at 926-6741. Parents are asked to take advantage of this program within 30 days of return from deployment or upon arrival for their two week leave.

**OPM PAY CHANGES IMPACT ROBINS EMPLOYEES**

Recently, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) amended the rules governing pay setting for employees covered by the General Schedule. Those rules implemented section 301 of the Federal Work force Flexibility Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-411, October 30, 2004) and were applied, by all government offices as mandated, retroactive to May 1, 2005.

Understanding the impact this could have on our employees, Robins Civilian Personnel Office immediately created a pay team to work the situation, contacted AFMC (Air Force Material Command / MAJCOM for Robins, Hill and Tinker AFB) for guidance and began determining who would be impacted and what could be done to minimize that impact. Once AFMC had finished discussions with AFGE Council 214 and given the go ahead, Robins Personnel Office immediately contacted impacted employees and met with them that same week. At those meetings, members of the pay team were pleased to share that, even though retroactive changes were required, the impacted employees would not be required to pay back resulting overpayments, since AFMC had been informed that AF was submitting a blanket waiver to cover all indebted employees.

Unbeknownst to Robins, Hill or Tinker Civilian Personnel Offices, it was decided by AF and DFAS (Defense Finance and Accounting Service) that a blanket waiver was not the best way to handle the indebtedness. DFAS, AF and AFMC had several discussions on the topic and it was determined that individual waivers would speed the process. As a result of this decision, Robins, Hill and Tinker AFB employees will be submitting individual waiver packages. To assist Robin’s impacted employees and ensure that all waiver package requirements were included, a pay team member met individually with the employees to assemble their packages.

The pay team and all members of Robins Personnel Office understand the frustration these unforeseen Pay changes have caused. We have and will continue to look out for and support our employees. All Robin’s employees are members of a great team, supporting a great nation. We are all wingmen, who care.



# From a Foundation

## Chapel holds special memories for many

By Lanorris Askew  
Lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

For more than half a century the Dobbins Air Reserve Base Chapel in Marietta, Ga., has stood as a place of worship, commemoration and celebration for hundreds of members of the Georgia Air National Guard during their Reserve duty weekends. But for many of those men and women the memories within the simple white structure go far beyond a weekend drill. According to Dickie Roberts, former 116th Air National Guard member, the chapel recently escaped the chopping block so to speak when a demolition contract was cancelled and instead the newly founded Dobbins Chapel Foundation was given 12 months to move the chapel to another base location.

Mr. Roberts has memories and another very special tie to the building. “My brother helped to rebuild it in 1950,” he said. “I’ve been to a lot of weddings and a lot of funerals there. When I walk into the chapel I see my brother and my friends.

It’s so serene it makes you want to sit down and meditate and get your mind right.”

Others who have memories of the chapel are speaking about their beloved place of worship and sharing their thoughts on what makes it special too.

“The Dobbins Chapel has been the spiritual center of the 116th ever since it was reconstructed on its current site in 1950,” said Col. Dan Zachman, 116th Maintenance Group commander. “Countless weddings, funerals, and worship services were performed there, and it has always been the place that people gathered, in good times and bad, to worship and to seek the comfort and fellowship of one another.”

The commander has his own very special memory of the chapel. “My wife Kim and I were married there on Nov. 1, 1996,” he said. “I also attended services there regularly until the 116th moved to Robins, and we moved to Macon in 1996. During our annual Christmas service, many retirees would attend, making that a much anticipated event.”

Dobbins’ chapel has been a part of Dobbins Air Force Base for 57 years and was brought there when Seymour-Johnson Army Air Field closed after WWII.

Mr. Roberts said the chapel was originally built at Seymour-Johnson Army Air Field in the 1940s, in a design that allowed it to be moved it needed. In 1949 when the airfield closed it was declared war surplus and sat until 1950 when the Georgia Air National Guard heard of its existence.

When the 116th Air National Guard unit moved from Dobbins to Robins, soon to become the 116th Air Control Wing, the chapel was turned over to the base. A foundation has been formed to help with the cost of relocating the facility.

While many people have built strong bonds with the chapel over a series of weekends, one man has built his bonds over years.

“My first involvement with the chapel was in attending the services in 1979,” said Chaplain (Col.) James A. Withers, 22nd Air Force staff chaplain. I was later assigned to the chapel staff in 1983, first as a unit chaplain and then later as the wing chaplain. I was a chaplain in that chapel until 1998 ... some 15 years.”

Along with regular chapel services, he has officiated at many weddings, funerals, and memorial services, and said the historical significance of the chapel is important to many.

“In 1949 it was relocated to Dobbins and then dedicated in 1950,” said the chaplain.

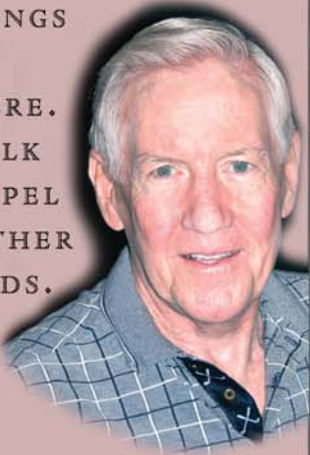
“Interestingly, then Deputy Chief of Army Chaplains, Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) James O’Neill, who was famous for the Patton weather prayer at the Battle of the Bulge dedicated the building.”

### DICKIE ROBERTS

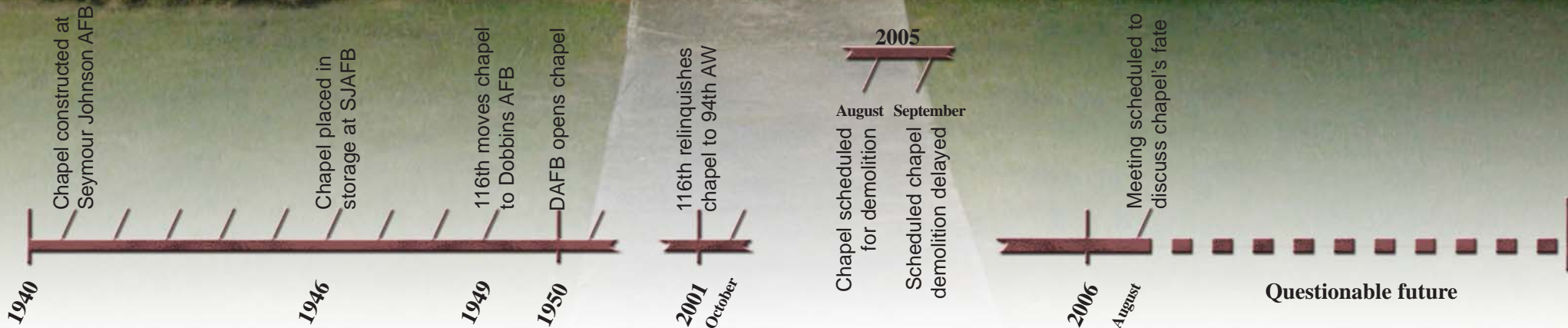
“I’VE BEEN TO A LOT OF WEDDINGS AND A LOT OF FUNERALS THERE.

WHEN I WALK INTO THE CHAPEL I SEE MY BROTHER AND MY FRIENDS.

IT’S SO SERENE IT MAKES YOU WANT TO SIT DOWN AND MEDITATE AND GET YOUR MIND RIGHT.”



U.S. Air Force photo illustration by  
STAFF SGT. BRIAN BAHRET





**TODAY**  
All-you-can-eat catfish and the fixings are served from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Officers' Club. For more information, call 926-2670.

Catfish on the curb is offered Fridays from 5 – 7 p.m. at the enlisted club. To-go dinners include catfish, coleslaw or potato salad and hush puppies for \$5.95. For more information, call the club at 926-4515.

Enjoy Thunder Alley bowling every Friday and Saturday from 9 - 11 p.m. at the Robins Lanes Bowling Center. Friday is family night. Children 12 years old and younger bowl for \$5; over 12 years old, \$10. On Saturdays everyone bowls for \$10 per person. This includes all the games you can bowl in two hours and shoes. For more information call 926-2112.

Get back in top form for the new bowling season by bowling Monday – Friday from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Cost is \$3 for three games. For more information call 926-2112.

The Joint Forces Bingo, located in the east wing of the Enlisted Club, has new surprises and door prizes. The hours are Tuesday through Friday at 7:15 p.m. Games begin at 2:45 p.m. on Sundays. Enjoy bar bingo five nights a week at 6 p.m. Anyone with an active duty, reserve, guard, retired, Department of Defense or family member identification card is eligible to play. The entry fee is free to all Robins' club members, bona fide guests and active duty or retired widow club members, and \$5 for eligible non-club members. For more information call 926-4515 or Teresa Resta at 926-1303.

**SATURDAY**  
Bumper-to-bumper is a fun way to introduce kids to bowling. Registration will be held Oct. 1 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. for children ages 3 to 7. This 10-week program includes one game a week and shoes starting Oct. 8.

The Fit Factor kickoff will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. – noon at the Youth Center. The school-age and teen center will conduct a fitness-a-thon to help raise funds for the Red Cross to contribute to Hurricane Katrina aid from 9 – 10 a.m. Other events will include yoga from 10 – 10:30 a.m., a climbing wall challenge, free throw contest, obstacle course, bike races and relays to include scooter, bouncy ball, and more.

Light refreshments will be provided. This kickoff event is open to participants ages 5 and older. For more information, call the youth center at 926-2110.

Air Force Materiel Command Texas Hold 'Em tournaments continue at the Robins Enlisted Club Oct. 1 and 8 with a playoff set for Oct. 15. Sign-up is at 12:30 p.m. and games start at 1 p.m. Free to club members; \$15 for nonmembers. For more information call 926-4515.

J.R. Rockers in the Robins Enlisted Club will be open for the weekly AFMC Texas Hold 'Em Tournament beginning at 1 p.m. Oct. 1. Food will not be available that day until 5 p.m. because of scheduled kitchen maintenance and end of year inventory. For more information, please call 926-4515.

The Information, Tickets and Travel office has tickets for the Oct. 1 - 2 Food World 300 and UAW-Ford 500 at the Talladega Super Speedway in Talladega, Ala. Tickets located in the Talladega section are \$110. This is for both days and includes a pre-pit pass for Sunday's race. Tickets are also available for the Oct. 29 - 30 Easy Care Vehicle Service Contracts 200 and Bass Pro Shops MBNA 500 at the Atlanta Motor Speedway. Tickets are \$50 for both days and are located in the east turn section. For more information call ITT at 926-2945.

**SUNDAY**  
The Officers' Club brunch is from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. with all-you-care-to-enjoy breakfast and dinner entrees. Cost is \$9.95 for members and \$11.95 for nonmembers. For more information, call 926-2670.

**MONDAY**  
Family Child Care will hold initial training Oct. 3 – 5 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. for child care providers. Providers are needed to care for infants and children with special needs and to offer care during non-traditional hours. For more information call Family Child Care at 926-6741.

A twilight special is available Monday – Friday after 4 p.m. for \$14 or a weekend and holiday special after 4 p.m. for \$15. The special includes green fee and golf car. Play as much as you can. For more information call the golf course at 926-4103.

The Hispanic Heritage Observation Luncheon will be Oct. 3 at the Enlisted Club, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10, and can be obtained at [www.robins.af.mil/heritage](http://www.robins.af.mil/heritage). Keynote speaker will be Dr. Gabriel A. Rincon-Mora, engineer, scholar, author, artist and inventor. He has written three books, has 21 U.S. Patents, and has been published in numerous technical journals and conference publications. For more information, call Ed Armijo at 926-6301 or email [edward.armijo@robins.af.mil](mailto:edward.armijo@robins.af.mil).

Line dance lessons are held every Monday from 6 - 8 p.m. in the Smith

## Services spotlight



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Get back in top form for the new bowling season by bowling Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$3 for three games. For more information call the bowling center at 926-2112.

Community Center ballroom. Cost is \$30 per person, and class size is limited to 40 students. Must be 16 years and older to participate. For more information, call 926-2105.

**TUESDAY**  
A Parents Morning Out begins Oct. 4 in Building 942. This new program is available to provide quality care for children ages 19 months – 4 years. Cost is \$60 per month per child and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. – noon with a discount during the holiday months of November, December and March. For more information call the Child Development Center at 926-5805.

Ultimate Frisbee pick-up games will be held each Tuesday beginning at 5 p.m. on the parade grounds. Games are open to men and women of all skill levels. Bring cleats and a white and dark colored shirt. For more information call Ryan Stich at 222-4346.

Karaoke is held at the Enlisted Club every Tuesday from 8 p.m. - midnight with Bobbie. For more information, call 926-4515.

**WEDNESDAY**  
A watercolor animals and landscape class is scheduled for Oct. 5, 12 and 19 from 6 – 8 p.m. Cost is \$10. Class space is limited and class is subject to change. Class fee is per day unless noted. For more information call Arts & Crafts at 926-5282.

Deadline to apply for the World Wide Talent Competition and the Tops In Blue 2006 tour is Oct. 5. For applications and information visit [www.topsinblue.com](http://www.topsinblue.com), or call the Community Center at 926-2105.

A Wednesday night bowling special will be held throughout October. Bowl three games plus shoes for only \$4.50 during open bowling. For more information call the bowling center at 926-2112.

Dance lessons are given every Wednesday from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Officers' Club. For more information, call 926-2670.

**THURSDAY**  
A fall classic will be held Oct. 6 – 8 at Pine Oaks Golf Course. Classic includes a 54-hole team event and individual event. Cost is \$100 per player and includes three days of golf with golf car, ice breaker, dinner, awards and prizes. Limited to the first 100 active duty and retired active duty players. There will be an additional 80 spots for all other eligible players. All players are automatically entered into the individual competition. Both events will run concurrently and will be conducted in accordance with USGA and local rules. To learn more call the golf course at 926-4103.

Bowl on Thursdays for only \$2.25 per game during October. For more information call the bowling center at 926-2112.

Come out to the greatest after work party and ladies night out every Thursday from 6 - 9 p.m. at the Enlisted Club. Cost is \$2 for members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call 926-4515.

**UPCOMING**  
The Family & Teen Talent Show will be held Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. on stage in the Smith Community Center ballroom. A required performers meeting will be held Oct. 4 from 4 – 6 p.m. and rehearsals will be held Oct. 5 – 7 beginning at 5 p.m. Performer categories include:  
► Parent and youth team – one parent and one youth  
► Husband and wife team – one eligible member and one spouse (both may be active duty)  
► Children – ages 3 to 5, solo or group;

ages six to eight, solo or group  
► Pre-teens – ages 9 to 12, solo or group  
► Teens – ages 13 to 15, solo vocal, solo instrumental, solo performance specialty or group; ages 16 to 18, solo vocal, solo instrumental, solo performance specialty or group.  
The minimum number of performers in a family group is three. A parent and child combo may include family members outside their immediate family. Any size group is authorized with the age of the oldest child determining the category. For more information about the show and the required activities leading up to the event, please call the community center at 926-2105.

Georgia National Fair admission tickets for \$5.50 and ride sheets for \$10 are available at ITT. The fair is Oct. 7 – 16. For more information call ITT at 926-2945.

A Southeastern Military Athletic Conference (SEMAC) preseason basketball tournament will be held Oct. 8 - 10 at the Fitness Center. For more information call 926-2128.

Celebrate the discovery of America Oct. 10. Bowl for \$2 a game from 1 – 6 p.m. For more information call the bowling center at 926-2112.

Learn a fascinating new art medium, encaustic art, Oct. 11, 18 and 25. This quick and easy medium uses colored wax and heat, and is suitable for every skill level. Cost is \$12.50 per class and is conducted by Tracy Dilonenzo. For more information call Arts & Crafts at 926-5282.

Enjoy a holiday card making extravaganza on Oct. 13 from 6 – 8 p.m. Participants will learn card making techniques and take home their completed projects. Reservations need to be made by Oct. 3 as class size is limited. Cost is \$15. For more information call Arts & Crafts at 926-5282.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and join the fun at Robins Park Oct. 14 for a family-feature presentation of “Young Frankenstein” – starring Gene Wilder. The movie will start at dark (about 8:15 p.m.) and concessions will be on sale. This is a 3C event. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

The Orgullo Hispano Luncheon will be held Oct. 14 at the Officers' Club from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Tickets can be obtained at [www.robins.af.mil/heritage](http://www.robins.af.mil/heritage). Keynote speaker will be Col. Pedro Vasquez. For details and ticket price, contact Andy Diaz at 926-1785 or 1786, or Ruben Dominguez at 926-1217 or [ruben.dominguez@robins.af.mil](mailto:ruben.dominguez@robins.af.mil).

Join the fitness center for a Breast Cancer Awareness walk on Oct. 14 starting at 11 am. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

Scrapbookers will meet in the ballroom at the Smith Community Center Oct. 15 at noon. The ballroom provides ample room to spread out supplies, share ideas and trade stories with fellow scrapbookers. For more information call 926-2105.

A banquet in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Observation month will be held Oct. 15 from 6 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. at the Enlisted Club. For more information including ticket price, call Miriam Rodriguez or Gopi Weldon at 926-7249.

Members First Plus! membership dinner is slated for Oct. 19 from 5 – 7 p.m. Cost is free to members, guests \$7.95 and nonmembers \$10.

Join the fun at Boss N' Buddy night Oct.

19. Doors will open at 4 p.m. and trivia games will begin at 5 p.m. at the Wellston. This event includes prizes and appetizers. For more information call the Officers' Club at 926-2670.

The 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing will hold a family picnic Oct. 22 in Robins Park, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for 542nd CSW employees and their families. There will be activities for the whole family including softball, volleyball, basketball, horseshoes, moon walk, disc jockey, balloon toss, clown, face painting, and a scavenger hunt with GPS equipment. There will also be appearances by McGruff the Crime Dog and the Warner Robins Fire Department's Spenders and Droops. Tickets are \$2 for adults. Children under 12 are free. Visit the 542nd CSW intranet webpage for further details.

A Halloween 5K fun run is slated for Oct. 29 at 10 am. with prizes for best costume and top finishers. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

The Youth Center Jr. NBA and Jr. WNBA basketball registrations will be held Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Cost is \$55. The program emphasizes fundamentals of skill development, teamwork, sportsmanship and positive adult participation with the goal of providing a fun and rewarding youth basketball experience. Players can create a bond with the game while learning what it takes to be successful off the court. A copy of birth certificate and current physical examination will be required.

Dedicated basketball coaches are also needed. Apply in person at the center or call 926-2110 for more information.

A Pumpkin Launch is scheduled for Nov. 4 at the skeet range starting at 4 p.m. There will be a 100-foot sling shot and prizes for the person slinging their pumpkin the farthest. Additional pumpkins will be available to have fun with for only \$1. This is a 3C event. For more information call the Smith Community Center at 926-2105.

A Veteran's Day Celebration will be held Nov. 12 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Georgia Veterans Memorial State Park in Cordele, with a ceremony at 3 p.m. In attendance will be the Heart of Georgia Pipes and Drums, Crisp County High School JROTC Color Guard, and guest speaker Tommy Clack, Vietnam veteran. A car and truck show will be held Nov. 12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. A radio-controlled model airplane fly-in will be held Nov. 12 and 13. For more information, call 229-276-2371.

Tickets for the Fox Theatre and Radio City Christmas Spectacular featuring The Rockettes are available at ITT for \$60. Shows are scheduled for 11 a.m. on Nov. 19 and Dec. 3.

**ONGOING**  
Football Frenzy 2005 has made a touchdown at the Robins Enlisted Club. By participating, club members have a chance to win a trip to a pro or Super Bowl game. Call the enlisted club for complete details and contest rules at 925-4515.

GO Orlando Cards are available at ITT. This card offers unlimited admission to more than 50 of Florida's top attractions plus savings on shopping and dining. Cost is \$90 adult/\$70 children for two-day pass; \$140 adult/\$115 children for three-day pass; \$195 adult/\$150 for five-day pass or \$250 adult/\$175 children for seven-day pass. For information call 926-2945.

*To have an item listed, send it to Amanda Smith at [amanda.smith@robins.af.mil](mailto:amanda.smith@robins.af.mil) by 4 p.m. Monday prior to the Friday of intended publication.*

Amanda Smith at:  
**[amanda.smith@robins.af.mil](mailto:amanda.smith@robins.af.mil)**.  
Submissions run for two weeks.

## NOW PLAYING



Adult tickets are \$3.50; children 11 years old and younger tickets are \$2. Movies start at 7:30 p.m., unless noted. For more information, call the Base Theater at 926-2919.



**TODAY**  
**Undiscovered**  
Pell James, Steven Strait

An aspiring New York model falls in love with a struggling musician when they suddenly cross paths on a subway train. As his profile rises, so do the demands of his budding new career and they both discover that the price of fame may be higher than anyone expected. PG-13 (sexual material including dialogue, partial nudity, language and drug content) 97 minutes

**SATURDAY**  
**Skeleton Key**  
Kate Hudson, Gena Rowlands

Caroline is a 25-year-old hospice worker who cares for the ailing and the elderly. After her latest charge passes away, Caroline takes a job in Louisiana, caring for Ben, a stroke-victim who is bed-ridden and cannot speak. But Caroline becomes suspicious of the house, and Ben's cold wife, Violet, only adds to the creepy atmosphere. PG-13 (violence, disturbing images, some partial nudity and thematic material) 104 minutes.

**UPCOMING**  
**40-Year-Old Virgin**  
Steve Carell, Catherine Keener

40-year-old Andy has done quite a few things in his life. But there's just one little thing he hasn't quite gotten around to doing yet. R (pervasive sexual content, language and some drug use) 116 minutes. (No one under 17 Admitted Without An Accompanied Parent or Guardian)

## CHAPEL SERVICES

**Catholic**  
Catholic masses are held at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and at a 5 p.m. vigil the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

**Islamic**  
Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

**Jewish**  
Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

**Orthodox Christian**  
St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

**Protestant**  
General services take place Sundays at 11 a.m. The service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and format. Protestant inspirational services take place Sundays at 8 a.m. Contemporary services take place 11 a.m. Sundays at the Base Theater. This service is informal and includes traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

*The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.*

## DONATE YOUR LEAVE

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests

to receive or donate annual leave.  
To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, wings should send information to



# Robins couple compete in half marathon

By LANORRIS ASKEW  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Senior Airmen Rebecca and David Oldenhouse hit the ground running Sept. 17, as the husband and wife combo set off to compete in the much anticipated Air Force Half Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

The 13.1 mile race had been a long-time goal for Rebecca, one she had wanted to accomplish even before she joined the military.

“Last year our wedding plans got in the way, but this year when we heard about the race, we registered online and started to get ready.”

The high school and college cross country and track runner didn’t waste any time preparing for her half marathon debut with six-to-11 mile runs at least three times a week.

Although the couple trained separately because they knew their race paces would be very different, David put in just as much work.

“I prepared myself by training with my friend, Airman 1st Class Spencer Johnson, who also was getting ready for the

race,” he said. The 54th Combat Communications Squadron radar maintenance technician was no newcomer to this type run as he had faired well in other half marathons.

“I’ve run in the Tybee Island Half Marathon where I finished 28th overall and the Museum of Aviation Half Marathon where I finished first in my age group,” he said.

The recent run took the racers along a route filled with historic places on base, including the United States National Museum of the United States Air Force, the Air Force Institute of Technology, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, the flight line, Huffman Prairie Flying Field and the Wright Brothers Memorial Monument.

“The only time I had any doubts came when we first looked at the course,” said Rebecca.

“It had a lot more hills than I expected, so I was nervous.”

The hills proved to be no problem for either of the Airmen with Rebecca finishing in first place for half marathon overall military



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
Senior Airman Rebecca Oldenhouse runs the track at the Fitness Center Monday.

female with a time of 1 hour, 30 minutes, 15 seconds. David finished 22nd with a time of 1:26: 07.

“I had no idea I would do as well as I did,” she said. “I’m really looking forward to competing again next year.”

The 78th Comptroller Squadron military permanent change of station technician said from her Air Force training she took persistence and determination and gained confidence.

“I think I can look at running a marathon in the future,” she said. “It was very encouraging and now I’m looking forward to getting back to my

## THE RUN DOWN

The Air Force Marathon, which includes the shorter half marathon, is always held on the third Saturday in September in celebration of the United States Air Force’s Birthday.

training.”

David agreed.

“I trained hard and I feel pretty good about how well I did,” he said.

Both Airmen plan to continue their love for the sport by trying out for the Air Force cross country team this year.



U.S. Air Force photo by ERIC PALMER  
Pictured left to right, Senior Airmen David and Rebecca Oldenhouse receive Commander's Coins from Col. Greg Patterson, 78th Air Base Wing commander, Sept 21 for their performances in the Air Force Half Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Rebecca also received a trophy for winning first place for half marathon overall military female.



# Keeping warm

Base Fire Department collects coats to help local families

By **HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD**  
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Robins is helping some local families stay warm this winter. The Base Fire Department and other local fire stations collected more than 1,000 coats for the Coats for Kids drive, a local effort to provide coats and other clothing for those who need them last year.

Rusty Adams, Base Fire Department crew chief, said he hopes his station's donation trailer at Building 377 will help this year's efforts be just as successful. The fire station started collecting coats for the campaign in 2001.

"We put an enclosed trailer in the parking lot at our fire station's headquarters and put a big "Coats for Kids" banner on it," he said. "When people donate these coats, we take the donations to the Houston County Fire Department and they have them cleaned."

The Macon Outreach Center and Salvation Army will distribute donated items to local families beginning Dec. 20 and continuing through Christmas.

Mr. Adams said people should donate clothing and shoes that are in good condition too.

The station has already collected about 70 coats since the campaign began this month.

Maj. Ronald Pullum, 778th Civil Engineer Squadron acting commander, said he is proud of the effort.

"I thought it was a wonderful thing to do," he said. "It stated out as Coats for Kids, but kids aren't the only ones who need coats in the winter. I think this is an excellent way for us to help our community."



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

**Rusty Adams, a crew chief with the Base Fire Department, stands in front of Robins' donation trailer at Building 377.**

## HOW TO HELP

Coats for Kids collects coats, clothing and shoe donations for local families who need them. Robins' Fire Department collected 368 of the 1,234 coats donated for the program in 2004. Coats may be donated until Oct. 31 at Fire Station One, at Building 377, or local fire stations in Houston and Bibb counties. For more information, contact Rusty Adams at 926-1833 or 256-2975.



# PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR ...

The “Put your hands together for...” feature is a monthly installment to the Robins Rev-Up. Due to the overwhelming number of awards people at Robins receive, we just aren't able to cover them all. This feature is our way of ensuring we give credit where we can. The installment runs in the last issue published each month. To have

an award included in the “Put your hands together for...” page, submit a brief write up of the award and the people who have earned it. Photos may also be submitted, but space is limited. Submissions should be sent either by e-mail or brought to the Rev-Up office, Suite 106, Building 215.

Submissions that are brought to the office should be in Microsoft Word on a disk. Photos can be e-mailed or delivered to the office too. For more information, contact Geoff Janes at geoff.janes@robins.af.mil or Amanda Smith at amanda.smith@robins.af.mil. Either can be reached by phone at 926-2137.

## ► IN BRIEF

### CHILD CARE OFFERED

A Give Parents a Break and Hourly Care will be held Oct. 14 from 6:30 – 10 p.m. at the Child

Development Center East and School Age Program (unless otherwise posted). An advance \$6 nonrefundable deposit is required by the prior Monday for hourly care. Cost is \$3 per child per hour for children ages 6 weeks to 12

years. New enrollees must have up-to-date shot records for their children and complete required forms prior to making reservations. For more information call the Child Development Center at 926-5805.

## >>> Spivey presented awards



U.S. Air Force photo contributed

Major Gen. Mike Collings presents Janet Spivey, chief of the Civilian Personnel's Work Force Effectiveness Division, with the 2004 Air Force Civilian Personnel Senior Program Manager award and the Air Force Exemplary Civilian Service award. The presentation ceremony was held Aug. 25. Ms. Spivey has been the Work Force Effectiveness Division chief since 1999.

## >>> 330th FSG awards given

The following members of the 330th Fighter Sustainment Group received quarterly awards.

### Administrator Support of the Quarter (up to GS-06)

- Sandy Murphy (first quarter)
- Gina Miller (second quarter)
- Kay Williams (third quarter)

### Employee of the Quarter (GS-07—GS-10)

- Cathy Jones (third quarter)

### Employee of the Quarter (GS-11—GS-13)

- Keith Allen (first quarter)
- Dell Taylor (second quarter)
- Randy Hyder (third quarter)

### Supervisor of the Quarter

- Clay Mead (first quarter)
- Dell Spires (second quarter)
- Amy Belk (third quarter)

### Military Enlisted of the Quarter

- Master Sgt. James Norm Bryant (first quarter)
- Senior Master Sgt. Kim Mosley (second quarter)
- Master Sgt. Brad Haupe (third quarter)

### Military Company Grade Officer of the Quarter

- 2nd Lt. David Gries (first quarter)
- Lt. Cecil Woolard (second quarter)
- Capt. John Fann (third quarter)

### 330 FSG Team Award

- F-15 SSM-MRRB Team (first quarter): Ryan Mead, Kristen Howell, and Billy Trussell.
- F-15 ACES 11 Catapult Swivel Team (second quarter): Rick Idone, Diana Chisolm, Randy Ivey, Jerry Byrd, Mickey Meeks, Phil Wyatt, and Steve Manning.
- Red Flag Team (third quarter): Lt. Col. Tally Smith, Master Sgt. Eric Collins, Steve Fairfield, Bill Fitts, Mark Hollifield, John Hughes, Cathy Jones, Terry Lorton, Louie Darsey, Bubba Padgett, Melanie Brooks, Dell Spires, William Sudderth, Steve Taylor, Tom Trapp, Renee Ussery, Misty Wagner, and Jim West.

## >>> Retirements

Richard Ashby  
Wayne Austin  
Larue Babbitt  
Patsy Bazemore  
George Bereza  
Stephen Davis  
Ronnie Harrell

David Hornsby  
Mary Johnson  
Beverly Rozeboom  
Yolanda Silva  
Albert Simmons  
Ronald Sumner  
Jerry Wells

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# Small businesses provide big support

By **FRED ANDERSON**  
Center Office of Small & Disadvantaged  
Business Utilization

It has been said that small business does not equate to small capability. According to Jim Lovett, director of the Center Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, small businesses often provide niche capabilities, are cost effective, and very responsive.

“Throughout fiscal 2005, the wings provided examples of exemplary performance from small businesses in support of the Center mission,” he said. “Three successes which were shared with us include contributions from Armour of America, Stone Machine and Tool, and Kern Steel Fabricators.”

During the first quarter of fiscal 2005, the Special Operations Forces/Combat Search and Rescue Sustainment Group in the 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing received an urgent requirement for armor ballistic fragmentation blankets from the 1058th Expeditionary Forces, deployed to Balad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The blankets were needed to provide protection against improvised explosive devices and small arms fire during convoy operations. Market research was conducted and three small businesses were identified.

Following negotiations and technical evaluations, Armour of America in Gardena, Calif., was awarded the contract. According to contracting officer Edward Lemon, AoA manufactured the ballistic fragmentation blankets and expedited delivery, exceeding the contractual requirement

by 11 days.

Due to AoA’s quick delivery, the Air Force was able to leverage off an already scheduled Air Mobility Command flight to Balad and deliver a life-saving capability to the war fighters of the 1058th Expeditionary Forces.

In another submission, the 330th ASW, the C2 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Sustainment (C2ISR) Group received outstanding support from Stone Machine and Tool, a woman-owned 8(a) certified firm in Jeffersonville, Ga. During fiscal 2005, Stone completed a \$1.6 million contract in just 20 days, delivering 20 cooling units for the U-2 program.

Normally that process takes 90 days. After the award, Stone worked with C2ISR personnel on design changes made by Lockheed engineers and was able to incorporate these changes in the production phase with little to no additional cost to the government.

“The management and personnel of Stone Machine & Tool have a professional and pleasant attitude and outstanding quality with a sense of urgency in meeting requirements levied on them by our office,” said David Whiddon, C2ISR Sustainment Group equipment specialist and breakout program manager.

Another example of high performance was submitted by Wayne Masters, 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing Support Equipment and Vehicles Sustainment Group contracting officer.

In January, Travis Air Force Base presented the 542nd CSW with a critical and time sensitive challenge concerning C-5

Isochronal (ISO) Maintenance Stands which could not be placed into service due to safety issues.

The loss of usage of the stands impacted inspection and maintenance times for the aircraft as well as overall mission readiness. Market research was conducted and Kern Steel Fabricators (KSF), a historically underutilized business zone certified small business in Bakersfield, Calif., was identified as capable of performing the needed repairs. Within two days of contract award, KSF met with aircraft maintainers at Travis and devised a timeline for completing repairs 15 days ahead of contract schedule.

As the repairs progressed, KSF substantially improved upon their timeline and all repairs were finished one month ahead of contract requirements. Travis personnel were very pleased with KSF’s quality and commitment, indicating KSF had even repaired defective welds in the areas of the modifications at no additional cost to the government.

That accomplishment is especially noteworthy when considering it was the first contract KSF had entered into with the Federal Government.

“A first time federal government contractor, a high visibility program, safety issues, and a critical timeline were all ingredients for a failed effort,” Mr. Masters said. “With teamwork and KSF’s proactive approach, the Air Force received the ISO stand back in service one month ahead of schedule, met every safety requirement, and developed a new small business partner for future related acquisitions.”